

Changing occupational structures? The Dutch labour market, c. 1580-1900



Danielle van den Heuvel (University of Cambridge)
&
Elise van Nederveen Meerkerk (Leiden University)

What's new?

Sources & approach

- Censuses for reconstructing pre-industrial labour market
- Long-term analysis
- Aggregating large variety of local occupational structures

Research area



Results aggregate analysis

- Internal development patterns were divergent
- General view of economic trend = Holland
- Crisis 'long 18th century' has to be nuanced
- 1750-1850: relatively few changes in occupational structures

Results in-depth analysis

- 'Traditional' transition $P \rightarrow S \rightarrow T$ did not take place

Results in-depth analysis

- 'Traditional' transition $P \rightarrow S \rightarrow T$ did not take place
- 1580-1850: Major changes occur *within* sectors

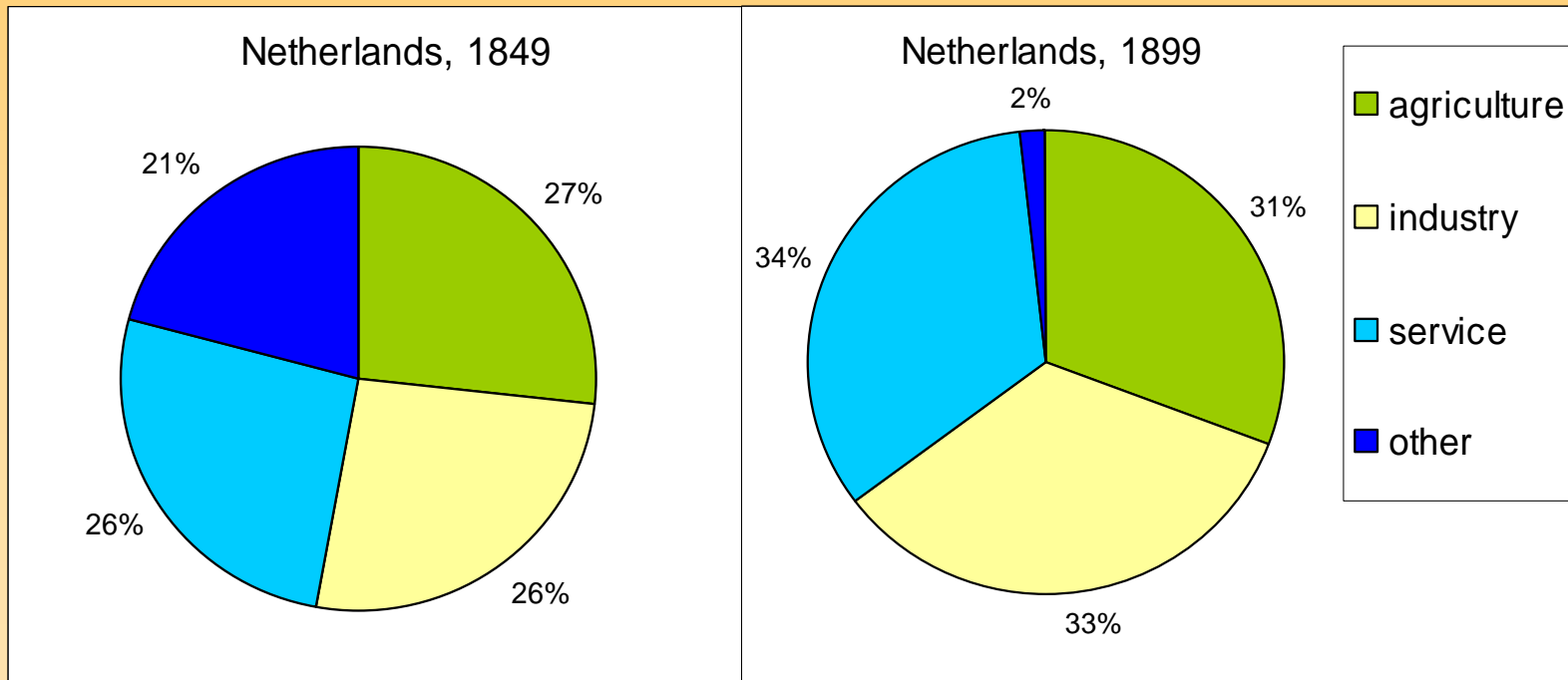
Commercial Specialization

	Leiden 1674	Zwolle 1742	's- Hertogenbosch 1742	Leiden 1749
	N = 99	N = 35	N = 110	N = 193
Draper	46.5%	40.0%	41.8%	36.3%
Haberdasher	24.2%	8.6%	13.6%	16.6%
Hosier	18.2%	20.0%	10.9%	6.7%
Ready made clothing	9.1%		18.2%	1.0%
Milliner; Hatter	1.0%	8.6%	3.6%	3.6%
Hairseller	1.0%			0.5%
Old clothes selles		22.9%	10.0%	32.1%
Leather seller			0.9%	2.1%
Shoeseller			0.9%	0.5%
Other				0.5%

Results in-depth analysis

- 'Traditional' transition $P \rightarrow S \rightarrow T$ did not take place
- 1580-1850: Major changes occur *within* sectors
- 1850-1900: Disappearance of 'unspecified' labour

Unspecified labour, 1849 & 1899



Results in-depth analysis

- 'Traditional' transition $P \rightarrow S \rightarrow T$ did not take place
- 1580-1850: Major changes occur *within* sectors
- 1850-1900: Disappearance of 'unspecified' labour
- Gender differences of great importance

Gender differences

- Effects of economic trend larger for women
- Changes within sectors affected men and women differently
- Changes between sectors affected men and women differently (Female labour market participation drops remarkably between 1850 and 1900)

